



June 13, 2001

William H. Gates, Sr.
Chief Executive Officer and Co-Chair
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation
P.O. Box 23350
Seattle, WA 98102

Dear Mr. Gates:

I am pleased to support California's proposal to provide our school administrators with quality comprehensive leadership development training with the goal of improving pupil performance. This proposal was developed under the direction of the Office of the Secretary for Education, in collaboration with many partners, identified in the proposal.

My administration has been very focused on improving pupil achievement, given our attention to teacher training, standards-aligned curriculum, and assessments. We now believe it is critical to turn our attention to training school administrators. We recognize that after well-trained teachers and standards-based instructional materials, one of the most critical elements to whole school improvement is well-trained, effective school leadership. Given our focus on assessments and the data it generates, teaching administrators to use technology to drive decisions to improve pupil performance is one of our highest priorities.

I appreciate your consideration of California's proposal, and I look forward to working with you on these very important programs. If you have any questions or would like to discuss this proposal further, please contact Secretary for Education Kerry Mazzoni at (916) 323-0611.

Sincerely,

/s/ Gray Davis

GRAY DAVIS

cc: Patty Stonesifer, President and Co-Chair
Tom Vander Ark, Executive Director, Education